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[54] SONIC TREATMENT TO SELECTIVELY
REDUCE THE VOID VOLUME OF
SINTERED POLYMERS[75] Inventors: Eric M. Nelson, San Clemente; Todd
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436/63[58] Field of Search 264/603, 442;
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[57] ABSTRACT

The present invention provides a method of sonic treatment to selectively reduce the void volume of a sintered polymer such as porous high density polyethylene (HDPE). The invention also provides a method and an article of manufacture for receiving a liquid sample, where a first portion of the sintered polymer (1a) overlies a solid surface (4a) and a second portion of the polymer (1b) overlies a window (4b). Sonic treatment of the sintered polymer reduces the void volume of the first portion (1a) compared to the second portion (1b). As a result, a liquid sample applied to the polymer will preferentially migrate through the second portion (1b), rather than through the first portion (1a). When the article of manufacture is used to analyze a liquid sample such as blood, less sample is required because of the preferential migration in the sonically treated sintered polymer.

13 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets

